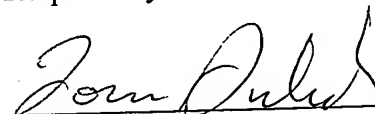


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

REMARKS

The claims assuming entry of the Rule 34 Amendments are amended to delete multiple claim dependency. Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 18, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

3. (Amended) The stabilizing agent for hemoglobin according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein said sulfur containing material is compound with SH group.
6. (Amended) The stabilizing agent for hemoglobin according to ~~any of claim 1 to 5~~, wherein said sulfur containing compound is added in an amount of 0.01 to 0.0001 parts by weight per 1 part by weight of hemoglobin.
7. (Amended) The stabilizing agent for hemoglobin according to ~~any of claim 1 to 6~~, wherein said hemoglobin are hemoglobin.
8. (Amended) The stabilizing agent for hemoglobin according to ~~any of claim 1 to 6~~, wherein said hemoglobin are glycated hemoglobin.
9. (Amended) The method for stabilizing hemoglobin, wherein characterized by adding the stabilizing agent for hemoglobin according to ~~any of claim 1 to 8~~.
10. (Amended) A composition containing hemoglobin, characterized by incorporating the stabilizing agent according to ~~any of claim 1 to 8~~.
11. (Amended) A kit which comprises at least one of the stabilizing agent according to ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1 and hemoglobin.
12. (Amended) Use of sulfur containing compound in stabilizing agent for hemoglobin according to ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.